

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Examiner's objections, rejections and comments in the Office Action of May 27, 2005 and have prepared the following response.

Claims 1—8 remain pending in this application. By this paper, Applicants have amended claim 6 and Paragraph [0004] of the Specification.

Turning now to the issues raised in the Office Action, the disclosure is objected to because of the use of the word "loosing" instead of the word "loosening" in Paragraph [0004] on page 2, 3rd line of the Specification. In addition, claim 6 is objected to because of the absence of the word "of" before "spaced" in the fourth line of claim 6, and the use of the word "relative" rather than "relatively" in the last line of claim 6. Applicants note that the above amendments to the Specification and to claim 6 are believed to obviate the Examiner's stated objection to the Specification and to claim 6 by providing appropriate corrections.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Welch (U.S. Patent No. 2,776,362, hereinafter "Welch") in view of either Seele (U.S. Patent No. 2,590,896, hereinafter "Seele") or Marlsbury (U.S. Patent No. 6,751,852, hereinafter "Marlsbury"). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following comments.

The Examiner contends that Welch discloses a resistance welding machine than includes an actuator 20 that is connected to a mounting member having a plurality of spaced-apart apertures through which a plurality of fasteners 21 removably secure the

mounting member to the welding machine. The Examiner has acknowledged that Welch does not disclose the use of a plurality of keyhole-type apertures to engage the fasteners. The Examiner further contends that both Seele and Marlsbury disclose the use of a plurality of keyhole-type apertures to engage the fasteners. However, Seele discloses the use of a plurality of keyhole-type apertures to permit a demountable wheel to be secured to a hub by interlocking spring fingers. Similarly, Marlsbury discloses the use of a plurality of keyhole-type apertures in a lock-plate for a pressure vessel wherein said apertures are advantageous for alignment and securing of flanged components. In contrast, the instant invention, as claimed, uses a plurality of keyhole-type apertures to permit mounting an actuator to a resistance welding gun. Applicant does not contend that Applicant has invented the use of keyhole-type apertures as a method of removably securing a first object to a second object. Rather, Applicant's claimed invention focuses on the use of a plurality of keyhole-type apertures to permit removably securing an actuator to a resistance welding gun.

Furthermore, the Examiner's assertion that it is obvious to provide in Welch a plurality of keyhole-type apertures to engage the fastener as taught by Seele or Marlsbury in order to align and lock the components together is unfounded. Welch does not suggest, or even contemplate, the concept of removably mounting, aligning and locking an actuator to a resistance welding gun as addressed by the instant invention. Finally, the Examiner has not shown where the art teaches or suggests the use of a plurality of keyhole-type apertures engaging the fasteners to quickly and removably secure an actuator to a resistance welding machine without the necessity of removing the fasteners. Claims 1 and 6 are thus not obvious over the cited references;

withdrawal of the rejection, and reconsideration and reexamination of the claims is respectfully requested.

With respect to the remaining dependent claims 2-5 and 7-8, without conceding the Examiner's position, Applicants contend these claims are allowable as a result of the dependency from either independent claim 1 or newly amended independent claim 6.

Applicant believes that no fees are due with this response. However, if any fees are required, Applicant authorizes the Examiner to charge Deposit Account No. 03-1800.

From the foregoing, it is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all previously outstanding rejections. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would expedite allowance or resolve any further questions, such a conference with the undersigned is invited at the convenience of the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/19/05

By: 

Ralph E. Smith
CIMS 483-02-19
DaimlerChrysler Intellectual Capital Company LLC
DaimlerChrysler Technology Center
800 Chrysler Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2757
248-944-6519

Attorney for Applicants